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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1961





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DALTON-IN-FURNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1961.

Town Hall,

Ulverston.

September, 1962.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Dalton-in-Furness Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical  
Officer of Health for the year 1961.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in acres	8,022
Population - Provisional Census, 1961	10,317
- Registrar General's Estimate of home population, mid 1961	10,330
Number of inhabited houses	3,794
Rateable Value	£83,796
Amount produced by a Penny Rate	£329.

The Urban District of Dalton-in-Furness is situated in the North Western part of the County of Lancashire adjoining the County Borough of Barrow-in-Furness and the North Lonsdale Rural District. Height above Ordnance Datum varies between 850 feet in the north-east to sea level in the west. There are outcrops of limestone in various parts of the District and in the past there has been extensive mining for iron ore which has left the surface considerably scarred and some of the low lying area flooded with water.

The chief industries are viscose manufacturing, shoe-making, brickworks, clothing manufacture and agriculture, but a large proportion of the male working population is employed in the shipyards and steelworks at Barrow.

VITAL STATISTICS

The principal vital statistics for the year 1961 and for the preceding five years are given on page two.

156 births were registered, 73 being males and 83 females. 1 male and 2 female were illegitimate.

Approximately 76% of the deaths were in persons of 65 years of age and over and the principal causes of death were :- Heart disease 55, Malignant growths 29 and Vascular lesions of the nervous system 29. Of the 55 deaths from Heart disease, 25 were due to Coronary Artery disease.

Year.	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	Number regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 popul- ation.	Number regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 popul- ation	Number regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
1961	156	15.1	148	14.3	6	37.0	Nil	Nil	4	25.6	4	25.6
1960	167	16.3	136	13.3	2	11.8	Nil	Nil	3	18	2	12
1959	154	15.0	139	13.6	1	6.5	Nil	Nil	6	39	5	32.5
1958	158	15.4	143	13.9	5	30.7	Nil	Nil	2	12.7	1	6.3
1957	181	17.6	155	15.0	6	32	Nil	Nil	7	39	6	33
1956	154	14.9	147	14.2	5	31	Nil	Nil	6	39	4	26
Average 5 years 1956-60	-	15.8	-	14.0	-	22.4	-	-	-	29.1	-	22.0

Adjusted live birth rate 1961 (comparability factor 1.02) = 15.4 per 1,000  
Adjusted death rate 1961 (comparability factor, 1.04) = 14.9 per 1,000.

The table below shows comparisons between birth and death rates in England and Wales and this District.

The rates quoted are for 1,000 population in all cases.

Year	England and Wales		Dalton-in-Furness Urban District	
	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Birth Rate	Death Rate
1961	17.4	12.0	15.4	14.9
1960	17.1	11.5	16.7	13.8
1959	16.5	11.6	15.3	14.1
1958	16.4	11.7	15.7	14.4
1957	16.1	11.5	17.9	15.6

#### STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :-

J.L. WILD. M.A., M.B., B.Chir.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D.P.H.

Other Appointments Held :-

Medical Officer of Health -  
Ulverston Urban District  
Council, Grange-over-Sands  
Urban District Council,  
North Lonsdale Rural District  
Council

Divisional Medical Officer -  
Health Division No. 1  
Lancashire County Council

Public Health Inspector :-

W.W. JACKSON, C.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.  
Meat and Other Foods  
Inspectors Certificate  
R.S.I. Certificate in  
Sanitary Science as applied  
to Buildings and Public Works.

Other Appointments Held :-

Cleansing Superintendent and Housing  
Manager - Dalton-in-Furness Urban  
District Council.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

### WATER SUPPLY

In April the Furness Water Board was constituted from the former water undertakings of the County Borough of Barrow-in-Furness, the Urban Districts of Dalton, Grange and Ulverston and the Rural District of North Lonsdale.

Dalton is supplied from Poaka Beck reservoir and Askam from the Ulpha intake of the River Duddon.

The supply was satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the year.

The supply now serves 3,752 houses direct, 9 are supplied by standpipes and 14 have private supplies.

### SEWERAGE.

The sewage from Dalton is taken to screening tanks near the site of the old gasworks and the effluent is then discharged to the Barrow Corporation sewerage system. The sewage from Askam is passed through screening tanks and the effluent discharged to the Duddon Estuary. Sewage from the hamlets of Newton and Martin passes through settling tanks, the effluent being discharged to streams. Lindal possesses a modern sewage works and full treatment is given, the effluent being discharged into a nearby stream.

It is estimated that there are 3,773 houses on the water carriage system, while 9 are served by privy closets and 8 by pail closets.

### HOUSING.

Property in the District is generally 60-80 years old, terrace type, opening direct on to the street. For the most part the houses are structurally sound, but many are without modern amenities such as baths and hot water system. There is a general lack of damp courses but little evidence of rising dampness. Repairs and improvements are slow to be carried out. A notable feature is the number of houses which are owner/occupied, this is estimated by the Rates Department to be 70% of the total hereditaments. In addition a further 15% are owned by the Council.

Number of new houses erected during the year :-

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats</u>
(1) By the local authority	Nil	Nil
(2) By other local authorities	Nil	Nil
(3) By other bodies or persons	8	Nil

#### 1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :-

(1) (a)	Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	89
(b)	No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	299
(c)	No. of dwelling-houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capably of being rendered fit	61
(2)	Total No. of dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit.	15

#### 2. Houses Demolished.

(a)	In Clearance Areas	7
(b)	Not in Clearance Areas	Nil



3 <u>Unfit Houses Closed</u>		Displaced during year	
	Number	Persons	Families
(1) Under Section 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act 1957	1	3	1
4. <u>Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied</u>		By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local authority		23	-
(2) After formal notice under -			
(a) Public Health Acts		7	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957		Nil	Nil
5. <u>Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957)</u>			Nil
6. <u>Houses in Clearance Areas Purchased by Agreement.</u>			Nil
7. <u>Housing Act, 1949, and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 - Improvement Grants etc.</u>			Nil
8. <u>House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 - Standard Grants.</u>		No. of dwellings or other buildings affected.	
Action taken during the year :-			
(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority		61	
(b) Applications approved by Local Authority		61	
(c) Work completed		39	

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Information regarding the inspection of food, shops, stalls and vehicles and places where food is prepared are given in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

#### MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcases inspected and condemned within the district.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	33	4	Nil	115	2
Number Inspected ... ..	37	4	Nil	115	2
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>					
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	3	1	Nil	8	Nil
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	9.9%	25%	Nil	7%	Nil
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases which occurred in the Urban District during the five years 1956-1960 compared with the number in 1961.

Disease	Number of cases in year					1961		
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	Number of Cases	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet fever	4	1	1	3	1	-	-	-
Measles	14	152	36	16	32	144	-	-
Whooping cough	9	13	-	-	-	17	1	-
Dysentery	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	1	-	1	8	-	-
Pneumonia	2	1	2	4	-	3	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	30	169	47	25	25	172	1	-

The outbreak of measles occurred during the first and second quarters of the year.



# TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shows the number of new cases and mortality during 1961

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
20-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
	2		1		-		-	

The table below shows the number of new cases and deaths from tuberculosis in Dalton residents during the past 12 years.

Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1950	3	7	2	3	3	-	1	1
1951	8	8	2	2	3	-	2	1
1952	4	1	1	-	1	1	-	-
1953	9	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
1954	10	4	1	-	1	1	-	-
1955	8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
1956	6	9	-	-	3	-	-	-
1957	4	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
1958	8	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
1959	4	2	-	-	2	-	-	-
1960	5	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
1961	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector) :-

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of -		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	13	19	2	-
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ...	34	34	2	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworker premises)... ..	-	-	-	-

Cases in which defects were found :-

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred -	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S1) ... ..	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2) ... ..	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S3) ...	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4) ...	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7) -				
(a) Insufficient ... ..	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	4	4	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ... ..	-	-	-	-

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-1951.

It was not found necessary to take any action under the above-named Acts.

The report of the Public Health Inspector is appended.

In conclusion, it is my pleasure to thank the Members of the Health Committee and the Officers of the Dalton-in-Turness Urban District Council, particularly the Public Health Inspector, for their unfailing courtesy and help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J.L. WILD.

Medical Officer of Health.

## DALTON-IN-FURNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Dalton-in-Furness Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you this portion of the Annual Report on the work of the Health Department and Cleansing Service.

The work of the Department has progressed as satisfactorily as possible during the year in view of the fact that clerical assistance has been shared with the Surveyor's Department since June when my Clerk Mrs. Rigg left the service of the Council.

The shortage of building labour in the district persists and local builders etc. are very busy thus causing long delays in getting work carried out.

The position regarding Certificates of Disrepair one of which was issued (Rent Act 1957) appears to be the usual one, that tenants are quite happy to pay the increased rent when repairs are carried out.

### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

The Council have made sixty-one grants all of them are what are known as Standard Grants, and whilst the procedure is more simple for the applicants the new scheme entails more work in the Department. This is, however, a circumstance for which we must be satisfied owing to the increased standard of housing which is produced. In thirty-nine cases the work was completed and the grants paid. It is again pointed out that landlords are not taking advantage of this scheme, these grants being made to owner/occupiers.

### MILK SUPPLY

Samples are taken regularly at monthly intervals and examined at the Pathological Laboratory at Preston. None of the samples were affected with Tuberculosis. Thirty-six samples were taken from a morning's milking of one herd and cows giving milk affected with Brucellosis were isolated and the disposal of the milk from these cows was arranged so that none was sold to the public in the raw state.

### ICE CREAM

There is only one ice cream manufacturer in the area and regular samples are taken and sent to Preston. All samples taken were satisfactory.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES

This has been a satisfactory year and no trouble has been experienced at the seven fried fish shops and one Knackers Yard.

### FOOD HYGIENE

The improvement in the handling of food brought about by the Food Hygiene Regulations continues. The constant watch kept by means of regular inspections and the education of food handlers at the time anything wrong is noticed, is giving good results and is appreciated by the trade. More than 300 visits were made for the purpose. There were 148 lbs of canned meats of various brands and 6 cases of assorted canned fruit condemned as unfit for food.

### MEAT INSPECTION

The Slaughterhouse at Lindal is visited at all times when Slaughtering is being done. During the year 37 Beasts 115 Sheep and 2 Pigs were killed and inspected. No cases of T.B. were found and organs condemned were affected with parasitic conditions only.

## RODENT CONTROL

This part-time service continues to give help whenever necessary and to remind people of their responsibilities. Over 1,000 visits were made to 444 premises and 245 treatments were carried out.

## REFUSE COLLECTION.

This service continued to operate without undue complaint, the annual holidays being staggered over the summer without employing extra staff, a fact which entails some delay in the collection of refuse, but I feel that this is greatly to be preferred to a complete stoppage.

I feel I must comment on the fact that the refuse is disposed of at Elliscales tip by means of crude tipping as has been the case for many years. This is a most undesirable practice and the only thing that can be said in favour of Elliscales tip is its isolation.

There are 9 privies, eight pail closets and five dry ashpits in the area, these being at outlying places.

During the year 92 tons 18 cwt. 2 qrs. of waste paper valued at £633:6:4. was disposed of.

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In conclusion it gives me great pleasure to put on record the good feelings existing between the various trades of the Town and the Health Department in its activities.

Mrs. Rigg left the service of the Council in June and was not replaced, her work being passed over to the clerical staff of the Surveyor's Department. I feel that this is a step which has not been to the good of the department's work, as records are not now kept as I think they should be.

My thanks are due to the Health Committee, Medical Officer of Health and other Officers of the Council for their unstinted co-operation and to the Cleansing Staff, without whose assistance the work of the Department cannot successfully go on.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM V. JACKSON.

Public Health Inspector.



